

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-16 (Canceled).

17. (New) A ceramic heater comprising:

a sintered disk-shaped nitride ceramic plate or a sintered disk-shaped carbide ceramic plate; and a heating element formed on a surface of or inside of the ceramic plate, wherein:

the ceramic plate has at least two bottomed holes positioned symmetrically around the center of the ceramic plate;

the bottomed holes are directed from the opposite side of a heating surface for heating an object to be heated toward the heating surface;

the bottom of a bottomed hole of said bottomed holes is formed relatively nearer to the heating surface than the heating element;

temperature-measuring elements are set up in said bottomed holes; and

the heating element is divided into at least two circuits.

18 (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 17,

wherein said temperature-measuring element is pressed on the bottom portion of said bottomed hole.

19 (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 17,

wherein said temperature-measuring element is pressed on the bottom of said bottomed

hole by means of an elastic body or a screw.

20 (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 17, wherein said heating element has a section in a flat shape.

21 (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 17,
wherein the distance between the bottom of said bottomed hole and said heating surface is from 0.1 mm to 1/2 of the thickness of the ceramic plate.

22 (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 17,
wherein said temperature-measuring element is a sheath type thermocouple.

23 (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 17,
wherein said temperature-measuring element is a thermocouple, and
the size of the connecting portion of said thermocouple is equal to or larger than the diameter of its strand wire and is 0.5 mm or less.

24 (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 17,
wherein said bottomed holes are formed by drilling or sandblast treatment.

25 (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 17,
wherein said heating element comprises tungsten, molybdenum, a carbide of tungsten or a carbide of molybdenum.

26 (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 17,

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wherein said ceramic plate further has a bottomed hole at the center of the ceramic plate.